

THE KENNA RECORD.

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Walt Mason On Home Patronage

Kersmith & Kicksmith deal in wax and Chinese eggs and carpet tacks. They are good sports in every way; they cough up money every day to make the town a better place in which to live and push your face. They hire a couple of clerks or more who wait on patrons in the store.

Our cross roads burg they would upbuild, and see fit with good people filled. And to that end they blow their seeds like truly patriotic lads. But when we need of eggs a few we send away to Timbuctoo, and when a carpet tack we wish, it's shipped from Ypsilanti, Mich. Each has the notion in his dome that things lie best away from home; and so we order hods and flats and humming birds and maltese cats from strangers in some town remote, who would not know us from a goat.

We ship away our hard earned kale, and get our fourth rate junk by mail. Say, are we fools, or are we foolst? Those strangers don't support our schools, or keep the peeler on his beat, or help to pave the muddy street. They do not pour the village pump, or build a fence around the dump. If our old burg were blown away they wouldn't care a whisp of hay.

Well, if we send everything away, sometime we'll have no tax to pay, because likely we will have no town—our burg will just be out and down. That don't sound very good, you say? Send that order in today.

Eclipses in 1916.

The following astronomical features of the heavens, billed to take place during the coming year, should be of especial interest to the pupils of our public schools. Cut this out and keep it for reference.

First of all, in the matter of eclipses, there are five. They are as follows:

January 20—Partial eclipse of the moon, visible generally in North America, beginning 1:55 a. m. and ending 3:24 a. m.

February 3—Total eclipse of the sun, for 24 minutes in Columbia, Venezuela and a partial eclipse visible in North America. Should be visible here between 7:57 and 9:51.

July 14—Partial eclipse of the moon, visible in North America. Visible here, beginning 9:19 evening and ending 12:34 past midnight.

July 29—Annular eclipse of the sun, visible in Australia and Southern Philippine Islands.

Dec. 23—Partial eclipse of the sun, visible in the extreme southern latitudes only.

And then the glory of an extremely brilliant comet will be visible to all, on Nov. 7, an omen of continued peace and prosperity for years to come.

Self-Straiten

Some men's idea of saving money is only one place of the money going to bed.

BETTY'S GREAT FIND

By FLOYD CLAY.

It was the biggest garret for fifty miles around. He who had planned and built the house had not paid special attention to the rooms and halls below, but he had provided a garret that all who came after him should be proud of. It was long and wide and contained treasures beyond enumeration in the shape of spinning wheels and bedsteads and bureaus and chairs and what not of the long ago.

An antiquarian who came one day and was allowed to look but not to touch, said to the eldest sister:

"There is nothing like it under the sun. If you will let me dig here for a week I will give you a hundred dollars."

"Not for a thousand," was the reply.

"But why?"

"Because you would make a dust and litter."

When Betty Lawrence, a cousin, at

the age of ten had visited the Misses Shaw and become homesick and shed tears, the sisters comforted her by promising:

"Now, Betty, chirp up, and be a good girl, and you shall see our garret."

Now, at nineteen, she was a visitor at the old house again. She had a lively remembrance of that dimly lighted room, and was determined to overhaul it if given half a chance. She dwelt upon the idea so constantly that she came to believe that somewhere in that collection of dusty treasures of the past there lay concealed a document which would bring a treasure to its finder. She even pictured herself standing before her startled old cousins, document in hand, this announcement on her lips:

"My dear cousins, I have found a great treasure."

One day, while waiting her opportunity to explore the garret, a young man known to the sisters called on an errand for his mother and was introduced to Miss Betty as Mr. Ford Kirkwood. The following day while she was out for a walk, he turned up as if by accident. This happened again on the third day, and on the fourth he forgot to offer an excuse for its rather marked recurrence. Within a week it had happened so frequently that neither saw anything unconventional in the matter.

This rapidly developing acquaintance did not escape the vigilant eyes of the cousins. One day the elder sister observed frankly:

"I suppose I ought to warn you against love at first sight."

"But he never loved at first sight or second sight or any other sight, how can you, Cousin Phoebe?"

At this the gentle old woman knitted feebly.

"Ford Kirkwood is a fine young man, but he has no money," she went on dutifully.

"Nor have I. I shall not fall in love, dear cousin. I shall not elope. I shall never marry—at least not until—"

"Until when, Betty?"

"Until I find a treasure," declared the girl as if she meant it. In her soul she believed there was a treasure in that garret. She felt like demanding the privilege of exploration, but still she bided her time.

Her opportunity came suddenly. There came a day when the sisters were called away on a matter of business which demanded their personal attention.

"I am so afraid you will be lonely," said the elder sister sympathetically. "We shall be away at least three hours."

"Oh, no; I can take a long walk and then read awhile after coming back," said Betty, trying hard to keep her voice steady.

Scarcely was the vehicle bearing the sisters out of sight when Betty flew to the garret. Once within the forbidden treasure house she stood for a long five minutes feasting her eyes. Then she selected the oldest and most battered trunk of the entire lot for inspection.

Letters and documents? Why, the trunk was full to repletion with them. There were deeds, mortgages, receipts, bills of sale, private letters, grants and what not, and the girl had only a glimmering of what had once been their legal value. Three hours had gone by and the return of the sisters might be expected at any moment when she selected a parchment almost at random, replaced the others in the trunk and left the fascinating spot.

"Nobody but an old pirate could have written a hand like that, and of course it was a pirate he must have written about a treasure. I shall ask Mr. Kirkwood to help to unravel it."

When he saw it Ford Kirkwood agreed with Betty that it was the work of an old pirate, but he admitted frankly that he was not an adept at deciphering hieroglyphics.

"It will have to be done," said Betty, determinedly, "before—before—"

"Why not postpone it until—"

"Until?"

"Until after we are married," he finished heretically.

"But I have promised Cousin Phoebe I shall never marry until I have found a treasure," she said with a great attempt to be serious.

"Well, haven't you found me?" he suggested brazenly. "And I have found you—the most precious treasure of all," he added gallantly.

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